GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5211
ANSWERED ON:30.04.2008
CONVERSION OF FOREST VILLAGES INTO REVENUE VILLAGES
Mondal Shri Abu Ayes

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the numbers of forest villages converted into revenue villages in the country, State-wise;

(b) the policy adopted by the Government to convert the forest villages into revenue villages alongwith the necessary criteria; and

(c) the steps taken to include villages under forest-village category, which were settled before 1981 itself?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY)

(a) So far,511 forest villages have been converted into revenue villages in 4 States of the Country under the Forest (Conservation) Act,1980.The details are enclosed at Annexure-I.

(b) & (c) The present policy of the Central Government is guided by the Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006, which inter-alia provides for `rights of settlement and conversion of all forest villages, old habitation, unsurveyed villages, and other villages in forests,whether recorded, notified or not into revenue villages.